

Remarks

The Notice of Non-compliant Amendment with respect to Claim 17 has been carefully reviewed. A typographical error caused an unnecessary repetition (in non-strikethrough form) the same limitation preceding it in strikethrough form.

Applicant has corrected the error by additionally striking through the unnecessary typographical error.

Contrary to the examiner's apparent assertion that the limitation being struck through here was not in the previous amended Claim 17, it is respectfully submitted that it was in element (d)(ii) as follows:

" (ii) a second non-perforated layer formed over said top surface of said first perforated layer and covering said solid areas and said perforated hole areas, said second non-perforated having an inner surface positioned over said top surface of said first perforated layer, and an outer surface for uniformly supporting sheetsubstrates, and said second non-perforated layer being made of a selected electrically non-conductive material having a density that is less than a density of said first layer, and being porous to air for diffusing pressurized airflow from said outer surface thereof into said perforated hole areas of said first perforated layer, thereby enabling transporting of image carrying sheetsubstrates without vacuum belt induced image defects."

In the current amendment being made compliant, this limitation proposed for addition in the previous amendment, is indeed added, and then proposed for removal by the strikethrough. Repetition of the same limitation without strikethrough was merely a typographical error that has been corrected above.

As filed with the Amendment being made compliant here, the Office Action of April 18, 2006 was carefully reviewed and considered. Applicant acknowledged the objections to Claims 1, 10 and 17. Applicant also acknowledged the rejections of Claims 4 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph, of Claims 1, 3, 5, and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Fleischauer, and of Claims 6; 10-11, 14, 17 and 18; and 16 and 20 variously under 35 U.S.C. 103. Importantly, Applicant acknowledged and was grateful for the indicated conditional allowability of claims 15 and 19, and therein stated as follows:

In order to place this application in condition for issuance as a patent, Applicant has made addressed the objections to Claims 10 and 17. Claim 1 and Claims 2-9 have been canceled.

In addition, Applicant has amended independent Claim 10, to now include the indicated allowable limitations of Claim 15 (incorporating the limitation of Claim 14 from which 15 depends). As such amended independent Claim 10 now has the same scope and limitations as allowable Claim 15 rewritten in independent form. Amended independent Claim 10 as such is now respectfully submitted as also being allowable. To avoid claim duplication, allowable Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled. Remaining dependents Claim 11 and 16 that depend from amended Claim 10 as such, are also respectfully submitted as now being allowable.

Similarly, Applicant has also amended independent Claim 17, to now also include the allowable limitation of Claim 19 (incorporating the limitation of Claim 18 from which 19 depends). As such amended independent Claim 17 as such is now also respectfully submitted as allowable. Remaining dependent Claim 20, that depends from amended Claim 17 as such, is also respectfully submitted as now being allowable.

Lastly, Applicant has added new Claims 21-30 that depend from allowable amended Claim 10 as such, and as such, new Claims 21-30 are also respectfully submitted as allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application with amended Claims 10-11, 16 and Claim 17, 20 and 21-30, are respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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